

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *Appraisal Fair* Event at the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum

ATHENS, Tenn. (April 2, 2014)—

The McMinn County Living Heritage Museum is hosting an **Appraisal Fair**. Similar to the popular PBS “Antiques Road Show” program, this appraisal fair is open to the public and will be held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 3rd. Guests are invited to bring their antiques for appraisal by John Case and the staff of Case Antiques in Knoxville. Case Antiques has sold a wide range of items including local art, furniture, pottery, silver, Chinese jade, signed Beatles albums, samplers and quilts. The cost is \$10 for the appraisal of *each* item or \$5 for the appraisal of each item with a Museum Membership. Museum Memberships may be purchased at the door. Annual memberships are: Family Membership \$45, Single Membership \$25 and Senior Membership \$15. Memberships sustain the Museum’s community outreach programming.

For **Appraisal Fair** registration guidelines consult the museum website at: livingheritagemuseum.com or call Mary Alton at 423.745.0329 between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM on Tuesday through Thursday or email malton@livingheritagemuseum.com.

The Appraisal Fair gives visitors a chance to bring in their family treasures and discuss its history and value with a licensed appraiser. **Case Antiques** is the coordinating sponsor for the event. Owner John Case was an appraiser at the March East Tennessee Appraisal Fair and noted that most recently he saw a piece of pottery worth \$30,000 and a sword belonging to Andrew Jackson appraised between \$75,000 and \$125,000. John also remarked that an internet search may take some of mystery away when looking for a market value of a prized object but appraisers have access to special databases and insider input. John Case’s overarching interest is Southern art and antiques. Several Case Antiques appraisers will be on hand to also evaluate jewelry, silver and porcelain.

The McMinn County Living Heritage Museum works to preserve our community’s distinctive history and to share the rich heritage and unique culture of southeastern Tennessee. Explore over 10,000 artifacts in 30 permanent exhibits representing the culture and history of our region from the 1700’s to the 1940’s. The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Saturday from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. The Museum is located a 522 W Madison in Athens in the old high school building. **Directions:** 522 West Madison Ave, Athens, TN 37303 From South off I-75: Take Exit 49, and bear right on Decatur Pike. Go 3.2 miles until you come to the 6th light (in downtown Athens), and turn right onto Washington Avenue. The Museum will be five blocks on the right. From North off I-75: Take Exit 52 (Mt. Verd Road), and turn left. Travel through four traffic lights to downtown Athens, where the street becomes Washington Avenue. The Museum will be five blocks on the right.

Contact:

Amy Blackburn, Executive Director
McMinn County Living Heritage Museum
423.745.0329
ablackburn@livingheritagemuseum.com